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INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES CONFERENCE IN PRAGUE

Just one day after the establishment of the CSZAV (Ceskoslovenska Akademie Zemedelskych Ved, Czechoslovak Academy of Agricultural Sciences), the 3-day international conference of delegates from the top-ranking institutes of agricultural sciences in the USSR and People's Democracies opened in Prague.

There were delegations from the USSR, Poland, Rumania, Hungary, and the GDR. The conference was opened by Academician A. Klecka, President of the CSZAV. After welcoming the delegates and Minister of Agriculture Nepomucky, Klecka stated the subject of this conference to be the outstanding problems facing agriculture and the possibility of closer cooperation with scientific institutes in the countries represented by the delegates. He added that the conference is also intended to furnish real bases for intensified cooperation among the institutes themselves and thus facilitate the utilization of Soviet knowledge.

The following members of the various delegations then greeted the conference: Dr Mieczyslaw Czaja, Polish Deputy Minister of Agriculture; Alexandru Priadcencu, member of the Rumanian Academy of Sciences; Andras Somos, member of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences; and Rudolf Schick, member of the GDR Academy of Agricultural Sciences and professor at the University of Rostock.

Alexandru Priadcencu in his speech stated that scientific workers of all the People's Democracies now have the untold advantage of the nonprofit-seeking assistance of Soviet Agrobiology, which is based on dialectical materialism. He said that Soviet agronomy, founded by such outstanding men as Timiryazev, Vil'yams, Michurin, and Lysenko, has proved superior to any other.

Dr Klecka then announced that program of the conference would be divided into four sections: plant production, animal husbandry, mechanization, and economics. He continued:

The two chief tasks facing plant production are the establishment of a similar system of grass-field rotation in all the People's Democracies and the introduction of new plants into agricultural production.

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The problems of the animal husbandry section are the increased utilization of present livestock, especially milk cows, and scientific evaluation of the food value of certain livestock feeds and establishment of proper feeding norms.

The mechanization section is to continue with mechanization of farms, and the economics section is mainly interested in the organization of JZD (Unified Agricultural Cooperatives) and state farms.

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